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Registration

Restoration of the old registration fees for attendance at the residences of parties.

* 745 Q.—**MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur**: With reference to the answer to my question No. 728, answered on 31st March 1927, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have again instructed the officers of the Registration department that the discretion given to them in the note to article 8 of the table of registration fees should be exercised in all deserving cases;

(b) if so, what the number of cases of such remission is since the instruction was given; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to restore the old fees for attendance at the residence of the parties?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Twelve.

(c) The matter is under the consideration of Government.

MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—“With reference to the answer to clause (c), will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state whether the matter is still under consideration, and if so, how long it will take the Government to come to a conclusion?”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIAR:—“A conclusion may be come to in a few days, Sir.”

MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—“As this is a matter concerning the gosha ladies and poor people, will the Government come to a conclusion without further delay?”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIAR:—“I have already said that in a few days the Government will come to a decision, and I hope the hon. Member will be satisfied then.”

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Retention of service inams by devadasis.

* 746 Q.—**MR. P. ANJANEYULU**: Will the hon. the Minister for Development and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any memorial or resolutions from the Kalavantula community requesting them to make suitable amendments to the Hindu Religious Endowments Act so as to enable devadasis to retain their service inams by performing service through male members of their families; and

(b) what action the Government have taken thereon?

A.—(a) The Government have recently received a letter from the hon. Member, enclosing a copy of the resolutions passed at a conference held by members of the Kalavantula community on 7th August 1927 at Brucepet, Bellary. In the resolutions passed at this conference the members of the community urge that the Hindu Religious Endowments Act should be amended

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so as to render illegal the performance of service in temples by dancing girls, and that the service inam lands should be granted on ryotwari patta. No reference is made to the performance of temple service by devadasis through the male members of the family.

About twenty memorials from certain members of the Kalavantula community in the districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Kistna, Guntur, Bellary and Anantapur have recently been received by the Government. These memorials do not contain any request for the amendment of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act.

(b) The Government will consider the action to be taken.

Nominations to the Temple committees.

* 747 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state who the members of the Legislative Council are who have been nominated by the Government since 4th December 1926 to the membership of the temple committees?

A.—A list is laid on the table. a

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Question 747 has been withdrawn since ; but, if it is the wish of the Government Member, the answer will go into the official report.”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I should like to answer it, Sir.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ It is a withdrawn question. The Standing Order is that if the Government Member wishes it, the answer will go into the official report.”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ If the question had not been put on the agenda, it would have been all right, Sir ; but since it has been put on the agenda, I propose to answer it. Otherwise it would give a wrong impression.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Then it will go into the official report.”

Veterinary

Stipends sanctioned for the Veterinary Colleges.

* 748 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of stipends sanctioned by the Government for the Veterinary Colleges, from year to year during the last seven years, and their value ;

(b) the reason for the decrease, if any, in the number of such stipends and in the value thereof, if any ;

(c) the number of stipends awarded to students of each community in each year during the last seven years ;